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## THE LIBRARY

AMONG the latest acquisitions in the Ryerson Library is an exceptional volume, *Tapisseries et étoffes coptes*, edited by Henri Ernst, Paris. The Coptes were the Christian descendants of the ancient inhabitants of Egypt. Many of them lived in monasteries and nunneries, and, since they were often employed in weaving, the natural result was that many of the patterns they used bear symbols of their faith—winged cherubim, small crosses, and bits of religious allegory. The book in question contains a series of plates so finely reproduced and colored that the alluring mellow quality of the ancient fabrics has been preserved. There are numberless suggestions for borders, scrolls, medallions, motifs, diaper and semé patterns, and the slender finials often found in Coptic weavings.

In the Photograph and Lantern Slide Department a new activity is the weekly exhibit of photographs which correlate with Mr. Taft's course of lectures on sculpture. The photographs will practically duplicate the lantern slides used by Mr. Taft and will remain on exhibition for the week following a given lecture, in order that the students may have further opportunity for study.



OBVERSE OF THE MR. AND MRS. FRANK G. LOGAN MEDAL  
CAST OCTOBER 1919

## JAPANESE STENCILS

COMPARATIVELY little has been written concerning the history, cutting, and use of Japanese stencils. Yet for beauty of design and masterly technique they are at least equal to the prints so treasured by collectors of Oriental art. Authorities differ as to whether the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century was the beginning of the use of stenciling, but it seems logical to endorse the opinion of some of the Japanese of today who say every good and beautiful thing was produced in the "Golden Age" of Japan. The oldest stencils are the simplest and show less detail than the later ones; the paper has darkened until almost black and is of much better quality than the paper of